Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Saturday 10 Feb 2024 until 23:59 on Sunday 11 Feb 2024

Forecast Issued on Saturday 10 Feb 2024 at 02:30

Confidence: High for turning settled Saturday, showery Sunday and Monday, then confidence medium for fair weather Tuesday and turning unsettled later Wednesday.

Headline for Saturday 10 Feb 2024: Mainly dry by day with brighter spells developing. Winds relatively light.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 10 Feb 2024

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Low Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Sleet showers (night)	Sunny intervals	Sunny	Sunny	Partly cloudy (night)	Cloudy
Precipitation probability					
30%	10%	10%	10%	<05%	<05%

Forecast for Saturday 10 Feb 2024

Weather: Cloudy start with some patchy light rain or drizzle, wintry across highest fells, then turning largely dry and bright around mid-morning and staying settled through the rest of the day.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% becoming 90% from mid-morning

Low cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain, very poor within cloud with bases quite extensive from 600m at first before lifting and breaking by mid-morning.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Saturday 10 Feb 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	14/17 S	15/19 S	14/18 SE	15/18 SE	15/18 SE	13/17 E	8/11 SE
600	13/16 S	14/19 S	10/13 SE	9/12 SE	12/17 SE	13/18 E	7/10 E
300	2/12 S	6/14 SE	6/13 SE	5/12 SE	5/14 SE	5/14 SE	2/8 SE
Valley	3/13 SE	4/13 SE	5/10 SE	4/10 E	3/10 E	4/11 E	3/8 E

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	2/-3	2/-4	1/-4	2/-3	1/-4	1/-3	1/-3
600	4/-0	3/-2	4/-0	4/1	3/-1	2/-2	2/-1
300	5/4	5/3	6/4	7/5	4/2	4/2	2/1
Valley	6/5	6/5	8/6	8/8	6/6	6/4	5/3
Freezing Level*	1100m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1000m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Severe wind chill confined to higher fells.

Forecast for Sunday 11 Feb 2024

Weather: Mainly cloudy with occasional showers, these wintry at times across higher fells.

Maximum wind: Variable 15mph or less

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 70%

Low cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain showers, very poor snow showers and within cloud with bases occasionally lowering 600m.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Zero Celsius increasing 11 Celsius during the afternoon
At 800m: Plus 1 Celsius lowering minus 1 Celsius
Freezing level: Lowering 700m by evening

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Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 9 February 2024 Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:55 Full report: Today was an excellent example of why we assess ground conditions on a daily basis as there was far less snow cover than expected! There is very little snow below 300m. Above 300m snow cover commences with very soft, wet snow with an average depth of only around 4-5cm. Surprisingly, this depth did not increase with altitude but rather decreased! This must be due to the fact that on Thursday the snow fell as fine grains at altitude and larger flakes lower down. Above around 800m the fresh snow is very soft powder. Coverage is generally very thin with windswept areas, such as large parts of the summit plateau, having virtually nothing to drifts of 30cm in sheltered spots and hollows. A slow thaw was occurring below 800m which was especially noticeable below 500m. Very little ice was encountered below 800m. Above 800m there were isolated patches of ice on paths and rocks the frequency of which increased with altitude. The windswept summit plateau was, as mentioned, devoid of snow but covered in rime ice. Walking poles and microspikes were very useful here. Above 900m, on steep north and especially east facing aspects there are patches of old, hard icy snow which have been present for some weeks now. Owing to their locations these represent no hazards to walkers with the possible exception of the exit to Swirral Edge where an, avoidable, old patch of icy snow lies hidden beneath fresh snow and rime ice making it more difficult to spot although not an issue with spikes on your boots. Despite the appearance of bulbs in the valleys, the summit windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) was minus 9 degrees C at midday with the temperature just below freezing, so full winter clothing (waterproofs – which double as windproofs - , extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment, including a torch, are all essential to safely, and enjoyably, roam the fells. With the summit temperature hovering around freezing, walking poles and microspikes are recommended for those attempting the highest peaks or for lower ones should the freezing level drop. Anyone attempting steep and exposed routes at altitude, such as the Helvellyn Edges, are strongly recommended to carry an ice axe and crampons or microspikes owing to the amount of ice on rocks and the possibility of more snow falling at altitude Friday night/Saturday morning. Visibility in the cloud today was down to around 30m at times so a map and compass together with the ability to use them are also essential. Goggles are useful to lessen the sting of windblown spindrift. Temperature: minus 0.5 C, Maximum wind speed 27.9 mph, Wind chill: minus 9.3 C, Average wind speed: 21.6 mph

Issued at: 02:30 on Sat 10 Feb 2024

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